

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, after the title, delete the heading:

**DESCRIPTION**

Add a new heading and paragraph at page 1, after the title as follows:

**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is a national phase application based on PCT/EP2004/050429, filed April 2, 2004, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

**Field of the Invention**

Page 1, before line 9, add the following new subheading:

**Description of the Related Art**

Page 4, before line 23, add the following new section heading:

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Page 4, line 33 to page 5, line 2, amend the specification as follows:

According to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of controlling access to a shared communication medium ~~as set forth in the appended independent method claim 1.~~

Page 6, lines 11-13, amend the specification as follows:

According to another aspect of the present invention, a MAC layer ~~as set forth in the appended independent device claim 12~~ is provided for controlling the access to a shared communication medium by communication network users.

Page 7, lines 15-16, amend the specification as follows:

Other aspects of the invention ~~relates~~ relate to a transmitter for a network user ~~as set forth in claim 21~~, and a communications network ~~as set forth in claim 22~~.

Page 7, before line 17, add the following new section heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 8, before line 13, add the following new section heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION